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**From:** Kathy Higgins [kathy.higgins@ncfb.org]  
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**To:** Tarr, Jeremy M [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=98859532088e4437968231eb6fef6b70-jmtarr1]  
**Subject:** NCFB Daily Briefing - 8.14.2017



## DAILY BRIEFING

### NEWS:

1- NAFTA renegotiations begin Wednesday, and this article offers an overview of how they might go and what's at stake. [Detroit Free Press](#)

As U.S., Mexican and Canadian trade officials prepare for NAFTA meetings this week, farmers hope for the best [Delta Farm Press](#)

2- Apple season is nearing in the Hendersonville region, and local growers say the apple crop comes with great opportunities for agritourism [Hendersonville Times-News](#)

2017 apple crop down 17 percent, USDA predicts [The Packer](#)

3- The Vance Regional Farmers Market, which Vance County Farm Bureau took a major role in bringing about, is highlighted in this look at the best of Henderson. [Our State](#)

4- Regional agronomist Don Nicholson presents an overview of tobacco, corn and other crops in Central NC at this point in the season. [SFN Today](#)

5- Stanly County Commissioners voted last week to move ahead with construction of the Farm Bureau Livestock Arena at the Stanly County Agri-Civic Center. [Stanly News & Press](#)

6- Congress has said tax reform will be a priority issue in September, and that's good news for farmers and ranchers, who face tax burdens and challenges currently when they attempt to transfer land, change ownership or expand the farm to include more family. [Focus on Agriculture](#)

7- Forecasters are keeping an eye on Tropical Storm Gert, which has formed in the Atlantic and could strengthen in the next day or two. [WRAL](#)

8- USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue has made two key food safety hires in his agency. Carmen Rottenburg is the Acting Deputy Undersecretary for Food Safety and Paul Kiecker is the Acting Administrator for the Food Safety and Inspection Service. [Growing Produce](#)

9- Georgia-based Flowers Foods has announced it will close its Winston-Salem snack cake bakery. [Winston-Salem Journal](#)

## UPDATES & MORE:

1- The N.C. Department of Environmental Quality is holding three hearings this week on the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline project—Aug. 15 in Rocky Mount, Aug. 16 in Jackson, and Aug. 17 in Lumberton. [NC DEQ](#)

2- Daily Briefing is taking a short break, but will return to a regular schedule on Aug. 28.

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